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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/803,644	03/18/2004	Hiroyasu Nishimura	SUZ-34	5345
20311 7590 03/17/2008 LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP 475 PARK AVENUE SOUTH 15TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10016				
EXAMINER				
PARK, CHAN S				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2625				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/17/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/803,644

Applicant(s)

NISHIMURA ET AL.

Examiner

CHAN S. PARK

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 March 2004.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 March 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the image printing apparatus comprising the difference comparison/detection unit as claimed in claim 7 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

2. Claims are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 2, line 1, "image" should be -- the image --;

Claim 2, line 2, "a plurality of" should be -- the plurality of --;

Claim 2, line 4, "page-based image" should be -- the page-based image --;

Claim 5, line 1, "image" should be -- the image --;

Claim 5, line 2, "a plurality of" should be -- the plurality of --;

Claim 5, line 3, "all the page-based" should be -- all ~~the~~ page-based --; and

Claim 5, line 4, "page-based image" should be -- the page-based image --.

Appropriate correction is required.

3. The following quotations of 37 § CFR 1.75(a) is the basis of objection:

(a) The specification must conclude with a claim particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention or discovery.

Claim 1 recites the limitation "said printing unit outputs the image information as an image on the basis of the converted printing information". It is noted that there are two conversions performed by the printing information converting unit. It is unclear if "the converted printing information" is referring to the first conversion performed in lines 5-7 or the second conversion performed in lines 18-21. For examining purpose, the limitation is construed as the printing information from the second conversion.

With respect to claims 3, 6-8 and 12, the arguments are analogous to those presented for claim 1, are applicable. It is noted that these independent claims also recite limitations having the two conversions. The examiner suggests the applicant to

clearly distinguish which of the two printing information is used for outputting the image information in the last limitation of the each claim.

Claim 2 recites the limitation "said printing unit outputs an image on the basis of the converted printing information". It is unclear if this converted printing information is referring to the conversion occurred in claim 2 or its independent claim 1. For examining purpose, it is construed as the converted printing information of all page-based image information recited in claim 2.

With respect to claim 5, arguments analogous to those presented for claim 2, are applicable.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 8 recites the limitation "said storing means" in line 19. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Furthermore, it is unclear if this storing means is included in the image printing apparatus or the information processing apparatus. For examining purpose, the storing means is construed to be included in the information processing apparatus.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Miyoshi et al. U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2001/0049703 (hereinafter Miyoshi).

With respect to claim 7, Miyoshi discloses an image printing system in which at least one information processing apparatus (PC 100 in figs. 10 & 11) to which image information corresponding to a plurality of pages is input (downloading/reloading of web pages from server 50 in paragraph 74) and an image printing apparatus (printer 200 in figs. 10 & 11) including a printing unit which prints an image on the basis of the input image information corresponding to the plurality of pages (printing the web pages in paragraph 79) are connected to each other through a network,

said image printing apparatus including:

a printing information converting unit which converts the input image information corresponding to the plurality of pages into printing information (converting the web page data into the imaging data for printing in paragraph 75);

a storage unit which stores image information corresponding to a plurality of pages in advance (saving the newly obtained web page data before the comparison step in paragraph 76);

a difference comparison/detection unit which compares the input image information corresponding to the plurality of pages with the image information corresponding to the plurality of pages stored in said storage unit on a page basis (comparing the webpage data stored in step 1128 with newly obtained web page data stored in step 1234 in paragraph 76); and

a control unit which controls said printing unit of said image printing apparatus to output the printing information converted by said printing information converting unit (controlling the printer unit to print the web page data upon receiving the print command from the PC 100 in paragraph 79),

wherein page-based image information which is determined to be different by said difference comparison/detection unit is converted into printing information by said printing information converting unit, and said printing unit outputs the image information as an image on the basis of the converted printing information (converting/printing the newest web page data in paragraphs 81 & 82). Note that the PC 100 and the printer 200 stores a plurality of web pages in accordance with paragraph 86. Also, each webpage data can include a plurality of pages according to fig. 9 for printing in the 2-sided function.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1, 3, 4, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Noble et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,978,842 (hereinafter Noble) in view of Johnson et al. U.S. Patent Pub. No. 2004/0205621 (hereinafter Johnson).

With respect to claim 1, Noble discloses an image processing system (fig. 5) comprising:

a storage unit (the client applicant's database in col. 8, lines 10-12) which stores image information corresponding to a plurality pages in advance (archiving documents in the database in advance in col. 8, lines 25-29); and

a difference comparison/detection unit which compares input image information corresponding to a plurality of pages (fresh copy of the web-page documents fetched from the server 12 in col. 8, lines 13 & 25-26) with the image information corresponding to the plurality of pages stored in said storage unit on a page basis (comparing the two documents to detect any changes in the web-page in col. 8, lines 25-38),

wherein page-based image information which is determined to be different by said difference comparison/detection unit is stored in the storing unit (storing/updating the client's database with the recent document in col. 8, lines 61-64).

Noble, however, does not explicitly disclose an image printing processing system which causes a printing unit to output an image on the basis of input image information corresponding to a plurality of pages, comprising:

a printing information converting unit which converts the input image information corresponding to the plurality of pages into printing information; and

a control unit which controls said printing unit to output the printing information converted by said printing information converting unit,

wherein the page-based image information is converted into printing information by said printing information converting unit, and said printing unit outputs the image information as an image on the basis of the converted printing information.

Johnson discloses an image printing processing system (fig. 1) which causes a printing unit (printer 110 or 112) to output an image on the basis of input image information corresponding to a plurality of pages (printing the formatted web-pages by the printer in paragraph 23, lines 14-16), comprising:

a printing information converting unit (document formatting system 104 in paragraph 15, lines 1-5) which converts the recent page-based image information corresponding to the plurality of pages into printing information (converting the web page data into the printer data in paragraph 23, lines 10-12); and

a control unit which controls said printing unit to output the printing information converted by said printing information converting unit (sending the converted print data and the instructions to the selected printer for printing the web page in paragraph 23, lines 10-16).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the client computer 40 of Noble to incorporate the printing information converting unit and the control unit as taught by Johnson.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to produce a hard copy of the web page data fetched from the server by converting/translating the web page

data into the print data by the client (paragraph 5 of Johnson). Furthermore, since it is desirable to obtain the most recent web page by the client (as taught by Noble in col. 8, lines 61-64), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to convert and transmit the recent web page to the printer for printing (paragraph 5 of Johnson).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Noble with Johnson to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

With respect to claim 3, Noble discloses an image processing system (fig. 5) in which at least one information processing apparatus (client 40 in fig. 5) to which image information corresponding to a plurality of pages is input (downloading/reloading of web pages from the server 12 in col. 8, lines 25-29), said information processing apparatus including:

- a storage unit (the client applicant's database in col. 8, lines 10-12) which stores image information corresponding to a plurality pages in advance (archiving documents in the database in advance in col. 8, lines 25-29); and

- a difference comparison/detection unit which compares input image information corresponding to a plurality of pages (fresh copy of the web-page documents fetched from the server 12 in col. 8, lines 13 & 25-26) with the image information corresponding to the plurality of pages stored in said storage unit on a page basis (comparing the two documents to detect any changes in the web-page in col. 8, lines 25-38),

wherein page-based image information which is determined to be different by said difference comparison/detection unit is stored in the storing unit (storing/updating the client's database with the recent document in col. 8, lines 61-64).

Noble, however, does not explicitly disclose an image printing system in an image printing apparatus including a printing unit which prints an image on the basis of the input image information corresponding to the plurality of pages are connected to each other through a network, said information processing apparatus including:

- a printing information converting unit which converts the input image information corresponding to the plurality of pages into printing information;

- a control unit which controls said printing unit of said image printing apparatus to output the printing information converted by said printing information converting unit,

- wherein the page-based image information is converted into printing information by said printing information converting unit, and said printing unit outputs the image information as an image on the basis of the converted printing information.

Johnson discloses an image printing processing system (fig. 1) which causes a printing unit (printer 110 or 112) to output an image on the basis of input image information corresponding to a plurality of pages (printing the formatted web-pages by the printer in paragraph 23, lines 14-16), comprising:

- a printing information converting unit (document formatting system 104 in paragraph 15, lines 1-5) which converts the recent page-based image information corresponding to the plurality of pages into printing information (converting the web page data into the printer data in paragraph 23, lines 10-12); and

a control unit which controls said printing unit to output the printing information converted by said printing information converting unit (sending the converted print data and the instructions to the selected printer for printing the web page in paragraph 23, lines 10-16).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the client computer 40 of Noble to incorporate the printing information converting unit and the control unit as taught by Johnson.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to produce a hard copy of the web page data fetched from the server by converting/translating the web page data into the print data by the client (paragraph 5 of Johnson). Furthermore, since it is desirable to obtain the most recent web page by the client (as taught by Noble in col. 8, lines 61-64), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to convert and transmit the recent web page to the printer for printing (paragraph 5 of Johnson).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Noble with Johnson to obtain the invention as specified in claim 3.

With respect to claim 4, U.S. Patent No. 5,898,836 which incorporated by reference in Noble (see col. 5, lines 49-50 of Noble) discloses that said difference comparison/detection unit compares the image information corresponding to the plurality of pages stored in said storage unit with revised image information corresponding to a plurality of pages, and detects image information of a revised page portion (comparing the portions of web page document according to col. 7, lines 9-11 of U.S. Patent No. 5,898,836).

Noble, however, does not disclose said printing information converting unit converting the image information of the revised page portion detected by said difference comparison/detection unit into printing information, and said control unit outputs the printing information of the revised page portion to said image printing apparatus.

Johnson discloses an image printing processing system (fig. 1) which causes a printing unit (printer 110 or 112) to output an image on the basis of input image information corresponding to a plurality of pages (printing the formatted web-pages by the printer in paragraph 23, lines 14-16), comprising:

a printing information converting unit (document formatting system 104 in paragraph 15, lines 1-5) which converts the recent page-based image information corresponding to the plurality of pages into printing information (converting the recent web page data having the revised/updated portion into the printer data in paragraph 23, lines 10-12); and

a control unit which controls said printing unit to output the printing information converted by said printing information converting unit (sending the converted print data and the instructions to the selected printer for printing the web page in paragraph 23, lines 10-16).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the client computer 40 of Noble to incorporate the printing information converting unit and the control unit as taught by Johnson.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to produce a hard copy of the web page data fetched from the server by converting/translating the web page

data into the print data by the client (paragraph 5 of Johnson). Furthermore, since it is desirable to obtain the most recent web page having the revised portion by the client (as taught by Noble in col. 8, lines 61-64), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to convert and transmit the recent web page having the revised portion to the printer for printing (paragraph 5 of Johnson).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Noble with Johnson to obtain the invention as specified in claim 3.

With respect to claims 11 and 12, arguments analogous to those presented for claim 1, are applicable.

7. Claims 6, 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Noble et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,978,842 (hereinafter Noble) in view of Miyoshi.

With respect to claim 6, Noble discloses an image processing system (fig. 5) in which at least one information processing apparatus (client 40 in fig. 5) to which image information corresponding to a plurality of pages is input (downloading/reloading of web pages from the server 12 in col. 8, lines 25-29), said information processing apparatus including:

a storage unit (the client applicant's database in col. 8, lines 10-12) which stores image information corresponding to a plurality pages in advance (archiving documents in the database in advance in col. 8, lines 25-29); and

a difference comparison/detection unit which compares input image information corresponding to a plurality of pages (fresh copy of the web-page documents fetched

from the server 12 in col. 8, lines 13 & 25-26) with the image information corresponding to the plurality of pages stored in said storage unit on a page basis (comparing the two documents to detect any changes in the web-page in col. 8, lines 25-38),

wherein page-based image information which is determined to be different by said difference comparison/detection unit is stored in the storing unit (storing/updating the client's database with the recent document in col. 8, lines 61-64).

Noble, however, does not explicitly disclose an image printing system in an image printing apparatus including a printing unit which prints an image on the basis of the input image information corresponding to the plurality of pages are connected to each other through a network,

said image printing apparatus including:

a printing information converting unit which converts the input image information corresponding to the plurality of pages into printing information; and

a control unit which controls said printing unit of said image printing apparatus to output the printing information converted by said printing information converting unit,

wherein the page-based image information is converted into printing information by said printing information converting unit, and said printing unit outputs the image information as an image on the basis of the converted printing information.

Miyoshi discloses an image printing system in which at least one information processing apparatus (PC 100 in fig. 14) to which image information corresponding to a plurality of pages is input (loading of web pages according to paragraph 92, lines 1-6) and an image printing apparatus (printer 200 in fig. 14) including a printing unit which

prints an image on the basis of the input image information corresponding to the plurality of pages are connected to each other through a network (printing the web pages in paragraph 97),

said image printing apparatus including:

a printing information converting unit which converts the input image information corresponding to the plurality of pages into printing information (converting the webpage into the image data in paragraph 95, lines 4-10); and

a control unit which controls said printing unit of said image printing apparatus to output the printing information converted by said printing information converting unit (controlling the printer to print the converted image data upon receiving the print command in paragraph 97),

wherein page-based image information which is newly obtained/updated is converted into printing information by said printing information converting unit, and said printing unit outputs the image information as an image on the basis of the converted printing information (printing the updated/reloaded webpage data according to fig. 14 & paragraphs 92 & 97).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the image processing system of Noble to incorporate the web page printing apparatus as taught by Miyoshi.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to send the fresh copy of the web-page document obtained by client 40 of Noble to a printer to produce a hard-copy of the web-page document (paragraph 96 of Miyoshi).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Noble with Miyoshi to obtain the invention as specified in claim 6.

With respect to claim 9, the combination Noble and Miyoshi discloses an apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said image printing apparatus prints an image on an output paper basis on the basis of the printing information of a revised portion which is converted by said printing information converting means (system shown in fig. 14 of Miyoshi teaches the method of printing the webpage including the updated/revised portion by transmitting the updated webpage data to the printer 200).

With respect to claim 10, the combination Noble and Miyoshi discloses an apparatus according to claim 6, wherein when image information corresponding to a plurality of pages is to be output onto one output paper sheet, the image information corresponding to the plurality of pages is arranged on one surface or obverse and reverse surfaces of one output sheet (printing the web data having a plurality of pages in 2-sided in fig. 9 of Miyoshi).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the image processing system of Noble to incorporate the web page printing apparatus including the 2-sided function for printing the revised/updated web data as taught by Miyoshi.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to save the paper by using the 2-sided function in printing.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Noble with Miyoshi to obtain the invention as specified in claim 10.

8. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyoshi in view of Parker et al. U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2003/0237046 (hereinafter Parker).

With respect to claim 8, Miyoshi discloses an image-printing apparatus (printer 200 in fig. 14), which is connected, through a network (network connecting the printer and the PC 100 in fig. 14), to at least one information processing apparatus to which image information corresponding to a plurality of pages is input (PDF files or webpage data in paragraph 92 & 97), comprising:

printing information converting means for converting the input image information corresponding to the plurality of pages into the printing information (converting the files into the imaging data for printing in paragraph 95); and

image printing means for, when the input image information corresponding to the plurality of pages includes a page which needs to be revised (it is apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art that PDF can be revised by the conventional PC 100), printing images corresponding to a plurality of pages on the basis of printing information converted by said printing information converting means from image information from the information processing apparatus which revises the image information of the corresponding page (printing the transmitted revised documents by the printer 200 in paragraph 97).

Miyoshi, however, does not explicitly disclose the information processing apparatus including difference comparison/detection means for comparing the revised image information corresponding to the plurality of pages with the image information

corresponding to the plurality of pages stored in said storage means on a page basis to detect a difference, wherein page-based image information which is determined to be different by the difference comparison/detection means is converted into printing information by said printing information converting means, and said image printing means outputs the converted printing information.

Parker discloses a PC having the webpage data editing program (modify the HTML data using web editor in paragraph 62) wherein the PC includes difference comparison/detection means for comparing revised image information corresponding to the plurality of pages with the image information corresponding to the plurality of pages stored in storage means on a page basis to detect a difference (comparing/determining the differences between the transformed/revised data view HTML and the previous data view HTML in paragraph 65).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the PC of Miyoshi to incorporate the HTML editing tool and the difference comparison/detection means as taught by Parker.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to provide an option of modifying the webpage data at the PC and to prevent from losing the revised portions from rendering the transformed/revised data view HTML in its entirety (paragraph 64 of Parker). Furthermore, since it is desirable to print the most recent/updated webpage document as taught by Miyoshi, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to print the HTML data reflecting the revised portion.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Miyoshi with Parker to obtain the invention as specified in claim 8.

9. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Noble and Johnson as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Miyoshi.

With respect to claim 2, the combination discloses a system according to claim 1, but it does not explicitly disclose the system wherein when image information corresponding to a plurality of pages is to be output onto one output paper sheet, all the page-based image information including page-based image information which is determined to be different by said difference comparison/detection unit is converted into printing information by said printing information converting unit, and an image is output from said printing unit of said image printing apparatus on the basis of the converted printing information.

Miyoshi discloses an image printing system (fig. 9) wherein when web data including a plurality of pages is to be output onto one output paper sheet (printing the web data in 2-sided in fig. 9), the web data of the plurality of pages is converted into printing information by a converting unit (converting the web data into the imaging data for printing in paragraph 75), and an image is output from a printing unit of a printer on the basis of the converted printing information (printing the converted data according to paragraph 79).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the image printing system of Noble and Johnson to incorporate the 2-sided function for printing the revised/updated web data as taught by Miyoshi.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to save the paper by using the 2-sided function in printing.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine three references to obtain the invention as specified in claim 2.

10. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Noble and Johnson as applied to claim 3 above, and further in view of Miyoshi.

With respect to claim 5, the combination discloses a system according to claim 3, but it does not explicitly disclose the system wherein when image information corresponding to a plurality of pages is to be output onto one output paper sheet, all the page-based image information including page-based image information which is determined to be different by said difference comparison/detection unit is converted into printing information by said printing information converting unit, and an image is output from said printing unit of said image printing apparatus on the basis of the converted printing information.

Miyoshi discloses an image printing system (fig. 9) wherein when web data including a plurality of pages is to be output onto one output paper sheet (printing the web data in 2-sided in fig. 9), the web data of the plurality of pages is converted into printing information by a converting unit (converting the web data into the imaging data

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for printing in paragraph 75), and an image is output from a printing unit of a printer on the basis of the converted printing information (printing the converted data according to paragraph 79).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the image printing system of Noble and Johnson to incorporate the 2-sided function for printing the revised/updated web data as taught by Miyoshi.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to save the paper by using the 2-sided function in printing.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine three references to obtain the invention as specified in claim 5.

Conclusion

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHAN S. PARK whose telephone number is (571)272-7409. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/CHAN S PARK/
Examiner, Art Unit 2625

3/6/08